

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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June 22, 2004

FROM: LINDA HAUGAN, Director
Transitional Assistance Department

SUBJECT: CONTRACTS FOR CALWORKS DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contracts with the following agencies to provide CalWORKs domestic abuse services, extending the contract period one year through June 30, 2005, and increasing the total amount by \$977,000, from \$977,000 to \$1,954,000.

Agency	Contract Amount FY 03/04	Proposed Amount FY 04/05	Proposed Total Contract Amount	Contract Number
Desert Sanctuary, Inc.	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$370,000	03-673 A-1
High Desert Domestic Violence, Inc.	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	03-674 A-1
House of Ruth, Inc.	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$450,000	03-675 A-1
Morongo Basin Unity Home, Inc.	\$227,000	\$227,000	\$454,000	03-676 A-1
Option House, Inc.	\$190,000	\$190,000	\$380,000	03-677 A-1
Veronica's Home of Mercy, Inc.	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	03-678 A-1
Totals	\$977,000	\$977,000	\$1,954,000	

BACKGROUND: On January 1, 1998, California's welfare reform bill of 1997, Assembly Bill 1542, enacted the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program which replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program for the State of California. The CalWORKs program brings the State's welfare system into compliance with the provisions of the federal welfare reform legislation known as the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act, which was signed into law on August 22, 1996.

The CalWORKs legislation includes a provision to provide services to domestic abuse victims. The legislation recognized that victims of domestic abuse face issues that may be real barriers to becoming employed and living a life of self-sufficiency. The objective is to identify CalWORKs applicants and recipients who are past or present victims of domestic abuse and assist them with participation in federal work activities, such as unsubsidized employment, and movement towards self-sufficiency without placing them at risk of additional abuse.

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Some of the services provided under the domestic abuse program are a 24-hour crisis hotline, group meetings to discuss issues and concerns with others who are experiencing the same problems, temporary shelter for those who need to immediately vacate their homes for safety reasons, and outreach services which would include domestic abuse awareness, education and life skills classes.

On February 25, 2003, the Board of Supervisors approved and authorized the release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to procure domestic abuse services for CALWORKs applicants and recipients for FY 03/04. In July of 2003, as a result of the RFP, the Board of Supervisors approved the contracts, with the agencies listed in the recommendation, to provide Domestic Violence services with an award amount of \$977,000 through June 30, 2004. Overall, the County has been satisfied with the delivery of services provided by these agencies. Contractor performance will continue to be monitored by reviewing monthly reports describing the services provided and the progress of each client, and semi-annual site visits to review contract, fiscal and program compliance.

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to these Contracts will allow the County of San Bernardino to continue to provide assistance to several hundred CalWORKs applicants and recipients and their families throughout San Bernardino County in FY 04/05 who are in need of domestic abuse services. Amendment No. 1 executes the first of two (2) one-year renewal options provided for in the Contract, based on availability of funds and contractor performance, beginning July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: These amendments have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel (Julie Surber, Deputy County Counsel, (909) 387-4119) on June 7, 2004 and by HSS Contracts (Lori Ciabattini, Contract Manager, (909) 388-0253) on June 2, 2004. This item has also been reviewed by HSS Finance (Kristin Letterman, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0330) on June 8, 2004 and by the County Administrative Office (Gary Morris, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0356) on June 8, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approval of these contracts will increase the current total Contract amount by \$977,000 (\$977,000 for FY 03/04, and \$977,000 for FY 04/05), from \$977,000 to \$1,954,000. The CalWORKs single allocation requires a fixed maintenance of effort of \$9.9 million, which is approximately 9% of total CalWORKs funding. Therefore, local share associated with these expenditures for FY 04/05 is approximately \$87,930. The local share is funded approximately 52% (\$45,724) with Realignment revenues and 48% local cost (\$42,206). Adequate appropriations and revenues have been included in the HSS Administrative FY 04/05 Proposed Budget.

Cost Reduction Review: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends this action based on the proposed services being critical for the health, welfare and safety of victims of domestic abuse.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS: All

PRESENTER: Linda Haugan, Director, Transitional Assistance Department, (909) 388-0236